

# ***Taking Action!***



## Ideas for Environmental Involvement in Wisconsin 2001



Compiled by *Project WILD* and *Project Learning Tree* staff  
at the Department of Natural Resources

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## ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION RESOURCE MATERIALS

### ★ **Educating Young People About Water**

A program that provides resources for youth program coordinators who are developing community-based water education programs. A listing of program materials, summary of over 120 water education curricula, and ordering information can be found on the web site at [www.uwex.edu/erc/ywc/](http://www.uwex.edu/erc/ywc/). To order write:

ERIC Clearinghouse  
1929 Kenny Road  
Columbus, OH 43210-1080  
(800) 276-0462

### ★ **EEK! - Environmental Education for Kids**

Designed for children in grades 4-8, this electronic magazine includes information on trees, wildlife, fish, air, water, land and much more. Hands-on activities encourage kids to get outdoors and



learn about nature. Activities and action projects are published in EEK's teacher pages, or subscribe to *EE News* (below). Visit EEK! at [www.dnr.state.wi.us/eeek/index.htm](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/eeek/index.htm).

### ★ **EE News**

An award-winning newsletter about environmental education trends and resources in Wisconsin, jam-packed with environmental happenings, activities, and Project WILD/Project Learning Tree program updates. *EE News* includes teachers' pages to enhance use of the DNR's *EEK! - Environmental Education for Kids* website. To subscribe, send a check for \$5 along with your name and address to EE News, Wisconsin DNR-Bureau of Communication and Education, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707.

*Give Water A Hand* is an education program designed to involve young people in local environmental service projects. Following steps in the *Give Water A Hand Action Guide* and the *Leader Guidebook*, your youth group plans and completes a community service project to protect and improve water resources. Guides can be downloaded from the website. Contact:

Give Water A Hand  
216 Agriculture Hall  
1450 Linden Drive  
Madison, WI 53706  
(800) WATER20  
URL: [www.uwex.edu/erc/gwah](http://www.uwex.edu/erc/gwah)

### ★ **Junior Ranger (K-3) & Wisconsin Explorer (grades 4 and up) Program**

An exciting program for families to participate in while visiting Wisconsin's state parks and forests. Families receive an activity book at participating parks that involves children as they take a bat walk, go back in time with wolves, look for "seedy" characters, solve rock riddles, and much more. When at least half of the book is completed, the child receives a colorful patch and certificate of achievement. A new activity booklet is published each year. For a list of participating parks, contact WI DNR at (608) 267-9351.

### ★ **KEEP Activity Guide: Wisconsin K12 Energy Education Program**

Learn how you can enhance students' understanding of what energy is, where it comes from, and how it affects students lives by attending a KEEP class. Participating educators will receive an Energy Education Activity Guide. Tuition waiver and stipend are available to certified, practicing K-12 teachers in Wisconsin's schools. For information about course scheduling and content, contact:

Wisconsin K-12 Energy Education Program  
414 Learning Resources Center  
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point  
Stevens Point, WI 54481-3897  
(715) 346-4770  
Email: [energy@uwsp.edu](mailto:energy@uwsp.edu)  
URL: [www.energied.ecw.org/keep/courses.html](http://www.energied.ecw.org/keep/courses.html)

### ★ **Give Water A Hand**

## HABITAT IMPROVEMENT

### ★ The Nature Conservancy

Help restore Wisconsin's habitats at risk by joining the Wisconsin Chapter of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) *on work days*. To find out about TNC's various restoration projects around the state, contact:



The Nature Conservancy  
633 W. Main Street  
Madison, WI 53703  
(608) 251-8140  
URL: [www.tnc.org/wisconsin/](http://www.tnc.org/wisconsin/)

### ★ Volunteer Work Parties

Are you looking for a worthy cause to motivate youth? Then consider teaming up with your friends for volunteer work parties. Each year DNR land managers must maintain recreation trails, cut brush, burn prairies, plant food plots or shelterbelts, and build brush piles for wildlife. For a listing of volunteer opportunities contact:

The Natural Resources Foundation of WI  
PO Box 2317  
Madison, WI 53701-2317  
(608) 266-3138  
URL: [www.nrfwis.org](http://www.nrfwis.org)

Or, contact the nearest DNR Service Center to find out the name and phone number of your local wildlife manager.

### ★ Build homes for wildlife

Songbird nest boxes are fun and easy to make and can provide a safe home for needy creatures. Email Betty at the Project WILD/PLT office, [prescb@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:prescb@dnr.state.wi.us), for house construction plans almost guaranteed to attract inhabitants.



Or, try some of the following websites for information on songbirds and their habitats:

North American Bluebird Society  
[www.nabluebirdsociety.org/](http://www.nabluebirdsociety.org/)

Cornell Lab of Ornithology  
[birds.cornell.edu/](http://birds.cornell.edu/)

WISCONLINE Attractions  
[www.wisconline.com/attractions/birding.html](http://www.wisconline.com/attractions/birding.html)

DNR – Bureau of Endangered Resources

[www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/factsheets/00etlist1.htm#BIRDS](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/factsheets/00etlist1.htm#BIRDS)

## SCHOOL and COMMUNITY RESTORATION

Do you have a little parcel of underutilized school property? Why not become active in restoring some of its native vegetation? Contact a local nature center, wildlife manager, county forester, or university extension agent for help; or, check out some of the following resources:

### ★ Backyard Conservation



A National Association of Conservation Districts publication that focuses on the importance of individual action in our own backyards. NACD also has a publication on creating backyard gardens for birds and butterflies. For information call your local conservation district office, or contact:

National Association of Conservation Districts  
PO Box 855, 408 East Main  
League City, TX 77574  
(800) 825-5547 ext. 32  
URL: [nacdnet.org/pubaff/backyard.htm](http://nacdnet.org/pubaff/backyard.htm)



### **BRAW**

Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin  
Tom Whalley  
Rt. 1, Box 223  
Hancock, WI 54467  
(715) 249-56056



### **Earth Partnership for Schools: Schoolyard Habitat Restoration**



The Earth Partnership program helps teachers establishing restoration projects on school sites. The program includes a two-week workshop each summer and on-going support from Arboretum staff to help schools in curriculum development and restoration planning. For information contact:

The Earth Partnership Program  
UW – Madison Arboretum  
1207 Seminole Highway  
Madison, WI 53711-3726  
(608) 262-5209  
URL: [wiscinfo.doit.wisc.edu/arboretum/eppnewfront.htm](http://wiscinfo.doit.wisc.edu/arboretum/eppnewfront.htm)



### **National Wildlife Federation Schoolyard Habitat Program**

(800) 822-9919  
URL: [www.nwf.org/nwf/habitats/schoolyard/](http://www.nwf.org/nwf/habitats/schoolyard/)



### **School Nature Area Project (SNAP)**

1520 St. Olaf Avenue  
Northfield, MN 55057  
(507) 646-3599  
URL: [www.stolaf.edu/other/snap/](http://www.stolaf.edu/other/snap/)



### **Wildlife and Your Land**

Help wildlife in your own backyard. This DNR Bureau of



Wildlife Management's publication series provides information that enables students to create wildlife management plans at home.

Each part of the series focuses on management practices that can be applied to a



wide range of land, from a 160-acre farm to a small urban lot. The series can be downloaded from their website at [www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/wildlife/publ/wildland.htm](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/wildlife/publ/wildland.htm)



### **WILD School Sites**

A Project WILD guidebook that offers teachers a structured program to help get students, school, and the community involved in developing a school natural area. Contact:

Wisconsin Project WILD  
Bureau of Communication and Education, DNR  
PO Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707-7921  
(608) 264-6280  
Email: [prescb@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:prescb@dnr.state.wi.us)

## **ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING**

Students can be active participants in long-term environmental health monitoring projects. To get started, contact one of the organizations below.



### **Adopt-A-Lake**

Wet socks, waders, and muddy boots – what a great feeling you will get as you explore Wisconsin lakes! The Adopt-A-Lake program is designed to give youth and adults guidelines in preserving, protecting, and maintaining Wisconsin's lakes. The Adopt-A-Lake program offers a field guide manual of activity based projects that gets teachers, schools, and youth organizations involved with the community. For information concerning this program, contact:

Laura Felda  
Coordinator, Adopt-A-Lake  
UWEX-College of Natural Resources  
Stevens Point, WI 54881  
(715) 346-3366  
Email: [Laura.Felda@uwsp.edu](mailto:Laura.Felda@uwsp.edu)  
URL: [www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/adopt-a-lake](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/adopt-a-lake)

### ★ Air quality

You can be an environmental doctor and conduct a simple ozone damage check-up on milkweed. Since 1992, classrooms throughout the state have been monitoring air pollution through the DNR's milkweed monitoring program. For more information, contact:

Air Education Specialist  
Milkweed Monitoring Program  
Bureau of Communication & Education, DNR  
PO Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707-7921  
(608) 264-9258 (education outreach)  
Email: voilem@dnr.state.wi.us

### ★ Aquatic exotics

Students could also learn to identify two foreign invaders to Wisconsin lakes by participating in the new *Eurasian Milfoil Watch* or *Zebra Mussel Watch* programs. For information contact your DNR district Inland Lakes Coordinator or:

Zebra Mussel/E. Milfoil Watch Coordinator  
Bureau of Watershed Management, DNR  
PO Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707-7921  
Zebra Mussel: (608) 266-9270  
Eurasian Milfoil: (608) 266-0502 or  
(608) 266-8631

### ★ The Birdhouse Network

An exciting way to participate in hands-on scientific research. Citizens place birdhouses (nest boxes) in their yard or community, and then monitor the birds that nest inside. Participants gather information, such as number of eggs and young in the nest, and submit their data over the Internet to scientists.

The Birdhouse Network  
Cornell Lab of Ornithology  
159 Sapsucker Woods Road,  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
(607) 254-2416  
(800) 843-BIRD  
Email: birdhouse@cornell.edu



### ★ Christmas Bird Count



Students interested in bird watching may want to test their eyesight by spotting and counting birds through the Christmas Bird Count. Data collected by bird enthusiasts is shared with ornithologists around the U.S., and is used to help keep track of populations and migration patterns of our feathered friends.

Contact:  
Christmas Bird Count  
National Audubon Society  
700 Broadway  
New York, NY 10003  
Glebaron@mediaone.net  
URL: birdsources.cornell.edu/cbc

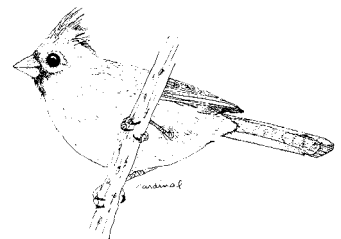
### ★ Classroom FeederWatch

*Classroom FeederWatch* is an enjoyable research and interdisciplinary education curriculum designed for students in grades 5-8.

Students set up feeders in their schoolyards, learn to identify and count the kinds and numbers of birds that visit, contribute their data to a research database, and share their data over the Internet with students across the country. Students' produce a newsletter that describes their findings and feelings about the project.

To participate or obtain information, contact:

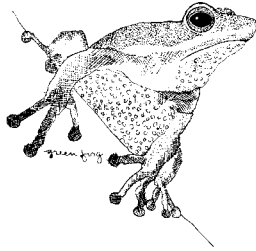
Classroom FeederWatch  
Cornell Lab of Ornithology  
PO Box 11  
Ithaca, NY 14850-0011  
607/254-2473  
800/843-BIRD  
Email: cornellbirds@cornell.edu  
URL: www.ornith.cornell.edu



### ★ **Fourth of July Butterfly Count**

Butterfly counts occur on the fourth of July each summer in Wisconsin, a time of year when most butterflies are active. Volunteer counters keep track of the variety of butterflies found in an area, their movement, and population numbers. For more information, contact:

NABA – Butterfly Count  
4 Delaware Road  
Morristown, NJ 07960  
URL: [naba.org/4july.html](http://naba.org/4july.html)



### ★ **Frogs and toads**

Conduct a frog and toad survey as a class project! Frog and toad populations serve as an index of environmental quality. Students' study the habitats and ecology of these

animals, then learn to identify different species by their calls.

For a packet of information on the frog and toad survey, including natural history information and field data sheets, contact the DNR at:

Wisconsin Frog and Toad Survey  
Bob Hay, WDNR  
101 S. Webster St.  
PO Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53701-7921  
(608) 266-7012

For a cassette tape of Wisconsin frog and toad calls plus natural history information (\$4.00 if you pick-up, \$7.00 by mail), contact:

Madison Audubon Society  
222 South Hamilton Street  
Madison, WI 53703  
(608) 255-2473  
URL: [madisonaudubon.org/](http://madisonaudubon.org/)

To find WI chapters use:  
[audubon.org/chapter/WI](http://audubon.org/chapter/WI)

### ★ **Invasive plants**

These plants have the potential to invade wild areas and outcompete native species – degrading habitats and causing extensive ecological damage.

To find out what you can do to control or eradicate invasive plants, contact:  
Bureau of Endangered Resources  
(608) 266-7012  
URL: [www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/invasive/eislist.htm](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/invasive/eislist.htm)

### ★ **Journey North**

This annual Internet-based project engages students in a global study of wildlife migration and seasonal change. Linked electronically to classrooms from the tropics to the tundra, students conduct interactive, comparative studies of the natural world by following the daily paths of migratory birds. For more information, contact:

Journey North  
125 North First Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
(612) 339-6959  
URL: [www.learner.org/north/](http://www.learner.org/north/)



### ★ **Lake monitoring**

Several lake monitoring activities are available through the DNR's *Self-Help Lake Monitoring* program. Volunteers of all ages are needed to observe and document how the water quality of a lake changes over time by measuring water quality. Contact:

Self Help Lake Monitoring Coordinator  
Bureau of Watershed Management, DNR  
PO Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707-7921  
(608) 266-8117  
URL: [www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/lakes/shlmmain.htm](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/lakes/shlmmain.htm)

★ **LoonWatch**

Volunteer to help with annual loon surveys on Wisconsin lakes. For more information, contact:

Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute  
Northland College  
Ashland, WI 54806  
Email: loonwatch@northland.edu  
URL:  
[www.northland.edu/soei/loonwatch/index.html](http://www.northland.edu/soei/loonwatch/index.html)

★ **Mercury: In Your Community and the Environment**

Did you know that mercury is released into your community and environment from power plants to home thermostats?

Learn about this heavy metal and join the Mercury Reduction Team. Complete a school and/or community survey to determine where mercury is being stored or used. A partial listing of places you may find mercury include science labs, dental offices, hospitals, batteries, switches, thermostats, and thermometers. Help identify these locations and provide valuable information on methods to properly store or recycle mercury.

For more information on this program contact Al Stenstrup at (608) 264-6282, or [stensa@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:stensa@dnr.state.wi.us).

★ **The Midwest Sandhill Crane Count**

An educational and scientific survey sponsored by the International Crane Foundation (ICF). Volunteers help inventory breeding populations of Sandhill Cranes to assess their numbers and distribution around the state, and to generate public awareness about the importance of cranes and their wetland habitat. The count usually occurs around mid-April. To help with the crane count, contact:

International Crane Foundation  
P.O. Box 447  
Baraboo, WI 53913-0447  
(608) 356-9462  
Email: [Explorer@savingcranes.org](mailto:Explorer@savingcranes.org)  
URL: [www.savingcranes.org/](http://www.savingcranes.org/)

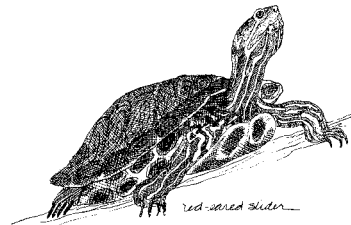
★ **North American Reporting Center for Amphibian Malformations**

To report amphibian malformations you find, or if you want to study this unusual phenomenon, contact:

Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center  
Biological Resources Division  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Jamestown, ND 58401  
(800) 238-9801  
Email: [narcam@usgs.gov](mailto:narcam@usgs.gov)  
URL: [www.npwrc.usgs.gov/narcam/](http://www.npwrc.usgs.gov/narcam/)

★ **Reptiles and Amphibians: Wisconsin Herpetological Atlas Project**

Your class could contribute to the *Wisconsin Herpetological Atlas Project*, and have some great field trips at the same time. Students searching for reptiles and amphibians could be the first in the state to spot a spotted salamander in Menomonee County or a Prairie Ringneck snake in Iowa County! Specimens or photographs students' submit will be used to help compile this statewide guide to amphibians and reptiles.



For information and a reporting form, contact:

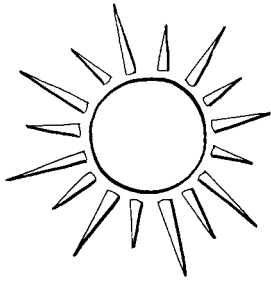
Wisconsin Herpetological Atlas Project  
Milwaukee Public Museum, Inc.  
800 South Wells Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53233  
(414) 278-2766  
Email: [gsc@mpm.edu](mailto:gsc@mpm.edu)  
URL: [www.mpm.edu/collect/vertzo/herp/atlas/atlas.html](http://www.mpm.edu/collect/vertzo/herp/atlas/atlas.html)



### ★ **Sturgeon Watch (late April- early May)**

The Lake Winnebago system has the world's largest single concentration of the amazing lake sturgeon. These prehistoric giants annually swim upstream from Lake Winnebago to spawn on the rocky shores of the Wolf and Embarrass Rivers.

The DNR needs volunteers to watch the shoreline and protect the fish from poachers. This event usually occurs for several days between late April and early May. Contact the DNR at (920) 303-5451, or (920) 424-3057.



### ★ **Ultraviolet radiation**

Using a hand held Ultraviolet Light Monitor, students can measure the level of direct UVR (ultraviolet radiation), the same measurement scale that

weather forecasters broadcast each day. Data collected will be compiled into a statewide report. This project is initially costly, but a good investment. The monitor is a Model 6.5 UV Index and is available from Solartech Inc. for \$169.

For more information contact Al Stenstrup at (608) 264-6282, or email [stensa@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:stensa@dnr.state.wi.us)

### ★ **Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas**



The Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas (the Atlas) is an on-going project administered by the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology. The Atlas is designed to provide a permanent record of the bird species breeding in the state, assist international efforts to preserve neotropical migratory birds, collect data for monitoring future

changes in bird populations, assess habitat needs of breeding species, and document species diversity. Become a volunteer! Contact:

Data Management Center  
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay  
Department of Natural and Applied Sciences  
Green Bay, WI 54311  
(920) 465-2545  
URL: [wso.uwg.edu/wbba/](http://wso.uwg.edu/wbba/)

### ★ **Wisconsin Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol Program**

Is purple loosestrife a growing problem in your wetland? Any interested person or organization in Wisconsin can acquire insects, that feed exclusively on purple loosestrife, to help curb the spread of this exotic weed. Start-up costs are very low, most work is done on just a few days in spring, and early monitoring shows that this program is very effective in deterring the spread of this invasive plant. There are great educational opportunities every step of the way, making this a must-do project for teachers interested in hands-on, real-life problem solving as part of their curriculum. **The project starts with spring thaw, so contact us now!** Email [woods@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:woods@dnr.state.wi.us), call (608) 221-6349, or write Brock Woods, WDNR, 1350 Femrite Drive Monona, WI 53715.

## **ADOPT A SPECIES / ADOPT AN ENVIRONMENT IN NEED**

Contact the following organizations for more information about adoption programs that can help preserve our valuable natural resources.

### ★ **Adopt-A-Crane**

International Crane Foundation  
PO Box 447  
Baraboo, WI 53913-0447  
(608) 356-9462  
URL: [www.savingcranes.org/Education/adopt.htm](http://www.savingcranes.org/Education/adopt.htm)



### **Adopt an Eagle Nest Program**

Bureau of Endangered Resources, DNR  
 PO Box 7921  
 Madison, WI 53707-7921  
 (608) 264-6031  
 URL:  
[www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/forms/aen.htm](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/forms/aen.htm)



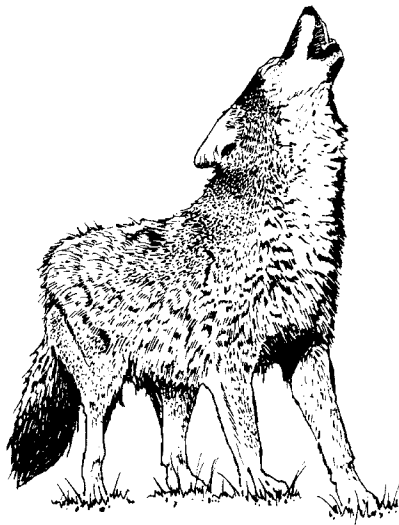
### **Adopt-A-Trail**

Support state parks, forests, and trails by volunteering time and labor in litter collection and minor maintenance activities. Adopt specific trail sections and get recognition for your work. Contact the DNR for more information.

Wisconsin State Parks  
 PO Box 7921  
 Madison, WI 53707-7921  
 (608) 266-2181  
 URL:  
[www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/voljobs/volunt.htm#adopt](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/voljobs/volunt.htm#adopt)



### **Adopt-A-Wolf Pack Program**



Timber Wolf Alliance  
 Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute  
 Northland College  
 Ashland, WI 54806  
 (715) 682-1223  
 URL:  
[www.northland.edu/soei/twa/aawp/index.html](http://www.northland.edu/soei/twa/aawp/index.html)

## **REDUCE, REUSE, AND RECYCLE**

A classroom waste reduction or recycling project can be one of the easiest and most rewarding projects for you and your students. The solid waste problem is one of the few environmental issues in which your students can take action, and see immediate results. Use these resources to help teach and practice waste reduction and recycling:

- ***Recycling Study Guide*** (4-12)
- ***K-3 Supplement to the Recycling Study Guide***
- ***The Fourth "R": An Action Booklet for Recycling in the Classroom and School***
- ***Recycling And Beyond! Get Connected with the Web*** (web card, poster, and coloring book)
- ***Thinking More About Less*** (6 – Adult)

To request free copies contact:  
 Recycling Education Outreach  
 Bureau of Communication and Education, DNR  
 PO Box 7921  
 Madison, WI 53707-7921  
 (608) 264-6028

## **ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNALISM/ MEDIA**

Radio, newspaper, and television are all valuable communication vehicles that inform people about contemporary issues. To learn about Wisconsin's natural resources, check out the following:



### **Into the Outdoors**

Beginning in January 2001, learn more about the outdoors by watching a new television show that explores Wisconsin's environment. See the Department of Natural Resources radio-track wolves from the air, watch as a group of kids

### **Into the Outdoors, cont.**

learn to snowshoe, and learn about maple syrup – from tree to breakfast table. Join in the fun!



Milwaukee WISN-12 Saturdays, 6:30-7:00 am  
Madison WKOW-27 Saturdays, 10:00-10:30 am  
Wausau WAOW-9 Sundays, 9:00-9:30 am  
Eagle River WYOW-34 Sundays, 9:00-9:30 am  
Eau Claire WXOW-18 Sundays, 7:00-7:30 am  
La Crosse WXOW-19 Sundays, 7:00-7:30 am  
Green Bay WGBA-26 Sundays, 7:30-8:00 am  
Duluth WDIO-10 Sundays, 7:00-7:30 am  
Hibbing WIRT-13 Sundays, 7:00-7:30 am

### ★ **Natural Resources Magazine**

Published bimonthly, Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine promotes DNR activities and programs, provides a foundation to discuss natural resource and environmental issues, offers information on places to go and things to do in Wisconsin, and serves as an educational resource.

For more information, browse the website at [www.wnmag.com/](http://www.wnmag.com/), or contact the Department of Natural Resources at (608) 266-6790.

## **CELEBRATE NATURE**

Each year, classrooms nationwide become involved in celebrations of wildlife, the earth, trees and more, by picking up litter and planting trees, or getting involved with indoor projects. Designate your own cleanup day, or get involved with one of the following celebrations this year.

### ★ **American Wetlands Month**

Join thousands of Americans each May in celebrating the uniqueness, beauty, and

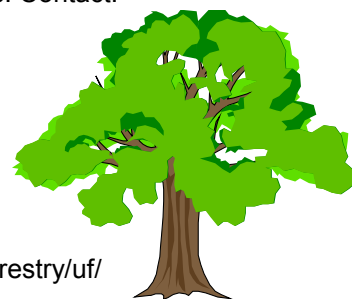
importance of wetlands. The Izaak Walton League has the tools to help you celebrate American Wetlands Month and learn more about wetland ecology, functions, and values. Contact:

Email: [awm@iwla.org](mailto:awm@iwla.org)  
Midwest office phone: (651) 649-1446  
URL: [www.iwla.org/siteindx.htm](http://www.iwla.org/siteindx.htm)

### ★ **Arbor Day**

Celebrated the last Friday of April in Wisconsin, this special day has been a national celebration for over 125 years. An Arbor Day curriculum unit, including a poster contest for all state fifth graders, is available to teachers. Contact:

Arbor Day Poster Contest  
Bureau of Forestry, DNR  
PO Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707-7921  
(608) 267-7494  
Email: [rideor@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:rideor@dnr.state.wi.us)  
URL:  
[www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/uf/awareness/arboposter.htm](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/uf/awareness/arboposter.htm)



### ★ **Earth Day**

Earth Day, April twenty-second, is a celebration of the planet earth and all of its rich resources. Call your community environmental groups, local nature center, or public and private schools to find out what they have planned for the celebration, or get involved with one of the programs listed in this publication. The Earth Day Flag Project (p. 12) is a great way to celebrate Earth Day.

### ★ **Forest Appreciation Week**

An extension of Arbor Day, Forest Appreciation Week begins the Sunday prior to Arbor Day. A writing contest is held for fourth-grade students statewide. Packets are distributed to teachers in late January and early February. Contact:

Bureau of Forestry, DNR  
PO Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707-7921  
(608) 267-7494



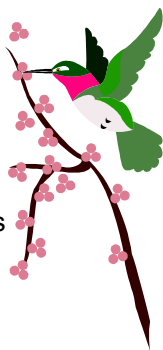
★ **International School Grounds Day**

This is an annual event sponsored by Learning Through Landscapes, a school grounds organization based in Great Britain. School Grounds Day celebrates the wide range of benefits gained from developing and using an outdoor classroom. For more information contact:

National Wildlife Federation  
(800) 822-9919  
URL: [www.nwf.org/](http://www.nwf.org/)

★ **International Migratory Bird Day**

This event is held on the second Saturday of May each year. Join in as thousands of people celebrate the migration of birds across the continents. Contact your local Audubon Society or local bird club to find out what events are planned in your area. To find out if there's a local Audubon chapter near you, take a look at their website at URL: [www.audubon.org/chapter/wi/index.html](http://www.audubon.org/chapter/wi/index.html)

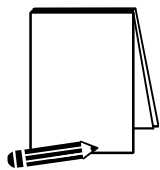


★ **Wisconsin Recycles Day / America Recycles Day**

Help close the recycling loop by celebrating America Recycles Day this November fifteenth. Americans are doing a good job separating their recyclables, but we need to buy more recycled-content products because, "If you're not buying recycled, you're not really recycling."

A planning guide with posters, entry forms, activities, and fun ideas is available for people interested in taking action. For materials, contact: [www.americarecyclesday.org](http://www.americarecyclesday.org)

★ **National Forest Products Week**



People simply don't think about the role that forest products play in our lives. The paper and wood industry tries to sharpen that focus, especially during National Forest Products Week the third week in October; a week set aside by Congress in the 1950s to call attention to our

dependence on wood products. For information contact:

American Forest & Paper Association  
1111 Nineteenth Street, NW, Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20036  
(800) 878-8878

★ **National Drinking Water Week**

The Blue Thumb Project began in 1992 to commemorate Drinking Water Week (early May). During this time, individuals, communities, and companies hold educational water events in libraries, schools, water treatment plants, shopping malls, and city halls. For information, or to order materials, contact:

Blue Thumb Project  
c/o American Water Works Association  
6666 W. Quincy Ave.  
Denver, Colorado 80235  
(303) 794-7711  
URL: [www.awwa.org/bluethumb99/bluethum.htm](http://www.awwa.org/bluethumb99/bluethum.htm)

★ **National Wildlife Week**

Sponsored by the National Wildlife Federation since 1938, National Wildlife Week's goal is to educate participants about wildlife conservation issues both globally and in their own backyard. Featuring a different theme every year, both a poster and activities are available to educators. For information call (703) 438-6000, email [wildlife@nwf.org](mailto:wildlife@nwf.org), or printout activities on their website at [www.nwf.org/wildlifeweek/](http://www.nwf.org/wildlifeweek/).

★ **Wolf Awareness Week**

The Timber Wolf Alliance (TWA) is an educational program of the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute of Northland College. In October, the TWA designates a week to celebrate the wolf. The goal of Wolf Awareness Week is to raise peoples' awareness and understanding about wolves, especially those in the upper Great Lakes region. Free posters are available through selected sponsors.

For more information call (715) 682-1483, email [tw@northland.edu](mailto:tw@northland.edu), or check out their website at [www.northland.edu/soei/twa/WAW.html](http://www.northland.edu/soei/twa/WAW.html)

## RECOGNITION FOR A JOB WELL DONE

All your hard work deserves a pat on the back. Apply for an award, or join the Earth Day Flag Project, to let others know you are taking action to protect the environment.

### ★ **Earth Day Flag Project**

An annual event sponsored by the DNR. The Earth Day Flag Project recognizes classes, schools, 4-H groups, and environmental clubs for learning about an environmental topic and/or getting involved with an action project. For a nominal registration fee participants receive a limited edition Earth Flag in time to fly for Earth Day. Contact:



Earth Day Flag Project  
c/o Project WILD/Project Learning Tree  
Department of Natural Resources, CE/6  
PO Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707-7921  
(608) 267-2463  
URL:  
[www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eeek/teacher/earthday.htm](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eeek/teacher/earthday.htm)

### ★ **Student Community Volunteer Awards**

Young people across the country who are volunteering their time and talents to improve their communities are encouraged to apply for the Prudential Spirit of the Community Awards.

Students in grades 5-12 are eligible. Applications are available through high school principals, Girl Scout Councils, and 4-H county offices. Two top volunteers in each state receive a cash prize and a trip to Washington DC. National honorees receive cash awards and medallions. A great way to be recognized!

URL: [www.prudential.com/community/spirit/](http://www.prudential.com/community/spirit/)

### ★ **Tree City USA**

The Tree City USA (TCUSA) award program was initiated by the National Arbor Day Foundation to recognize the effort put forth by communities that properly manage their urban forests. Communities achieving Tree City status receive a flag, a walnut mounted plaque, and special highway entrance signs proclaiming their community a Tree City USA! community. Contact your Regional Urban Forestry Coordinator for more information and an application. Completed applications are due to your regional coordinator no later than December thirty-first of each year.

Dick Rideout,  
State Urban Forestry Coordinator, DNR  
PO Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707  
(608) 267-0843  
Email: [rideor@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:rideor@dnr.state.wi.us)  
URL:  
[www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/uf/staff/index.htm](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/uf/staff/index.htm)

## TAKE ACTION: LEGAL OR POLITICAL

### ★ **Legislation and Policy.**

Students can impact the course of environmental legislation by writing individuals/organizations involved in making policy decisions. Identify pending legislation by following the news or contacting environmental groups, and set a course for involvement in the democratic process.

Before starting a writing campaign, have students collect resources and study the issue. Promote discussions or debates in the classroom, or encourage your students to solicit opinions from peers, parents or neighbors.

After forming an opinion, students can write their legislator or local environmental group. Refer to the *List of Agencies and Organizations* in your Project WILD or Project Learning Tree guide, or contact your local legislators or environmental group. Try calling the **Legislative Hotline** at (800) 362-9472 or (608) 266-9960 for the names and addresses of local legislators.

Other good resources for finding out the latest on Wisconsin's environmental political scene are:

#### **Wisconsin's Environmental Decade**

122 State Street, Suite 200  
Madison, WI 53703  
(608) 251-7020

#### **Sierra Club, Wisconsin Chapter**

222 S. Hamilton, Rm. #1  
Madison, WI 53703  
(608) 256-0565  
URL: [www.sierraclub.org/chapters/wi](http://www.sierraclub.org/chapters/wi)

#### **Sierra Club, Midwest Office**

214 N. Henry Street  
Madison, WI 53703  
(608) 257-4994

#### **National Wildlife Federation-Action Link**

URL: [www.nwf.org/action/index.html](http://www.nwf.org/action/index.html)

### ★ **Global Education**

Environmental issues know no boundaries; therefore, it is likely that an environmental concern in Wisconsin is relevant elsewhere in the world. Communication with international neighbors is often critical to resolving environmental problems at home. For example, many Wisconsin songbirds spend the winter in South and Central America. Without adequate habitat in both the summer and winter range, they are likely to perish.

By establishing pen pals with children in foreign countries or even other states, children can learn about wildlife and natural resources in other parts of the world. The children's magazine *Skipping Stones* publishes a list of children who are looking for pen pals in each issue.

#### **Skipping Stones**

PO Box 3939  
Eugene, OR 97403  
(503) 342-4956  
URL: [www.efn.org/~skipping/](http://www.efn.org/~skipping/)

The Peace Corps has a program, which will link your classroom with a Peace Corps volunteer in another country. Contact:

#### **Peace Corps**

World Wise Schools  
1111 20<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20526  
(800) 424-8580 ext. 1450  
(202) 692-1450  
Email: [wwsinfo@peacecorps.gov](mailto:wwsinfo@peacecorps.gov)  
URL: [www.peacecorps.gov/wws/](http://www.peacecorps.gov/wws/)



## ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS

### ★ **Green Works!**

Green Works! encourages students to participate in community based partnerships by developing and implementing environmental action projects such as graffiti paint-overs, tree plantings, stream clean-ups, and recycling projects. To apply for this grant, you must have attended a Project Learning Tree training workshop previous to your application date. Applications are due in December each year. For application information, contact Al Stenstrup at:

Project Learning Tree  
Department of Natural Resources, CE/6  
PO Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707-7921  
(608) 264-6282  
Email:stensa@dnr.state.wi.us

### ★ **C.D. Besadny Conservation Grants**

This program was created to fill an important niche in funding small-scale, grassroots conservation projects. Grants of up to \$1,000 are awarded to schools, organizations, individuals, and government agencies for projects involving education, restoration, research, and management of Wisconsin's natural resources.

To date, a total of \$109,000 has been awarded to 174 projects statewide. Call the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin at (608) 266-1430, or download an application at [www.nrfwis.org](http://www.nrfwis.org).

### ★ **The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**

The EPA Environmental Education Grants Program supports environmental education projects that increase the public's awareness, knowledge, and skills in order to make informed environmental decisions. Grants less than \$25,000 are awarded in EPA's regional offices; grants of more than \$25,000 are awarded at EPA Headquarters in Washington, D.C.. For application

information visit their website at [www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html](http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html)

### ★ **Forest Stewardship Grant**

Are you interested in under-taking a forest stewardship project? Projects can include conducting training of natural resource professionals; workshops for landowners, youth or loggers; developing training materials; educational materials, or programs; providing technical assistance to landowners, and; forestry demonstration projects. Contact Linda DePaul, Forest Stewardship Coordinator, DNR, 101 S. Webster St., PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921.  
(608) 266-2388

### ★ **PG & E Corporation**

An Environmental Education Grant Program that awards funds to projects that educate children about protecting and caring for the world around them. K-12 schools and local, non-profit groups that are engaged in educational projects related to conservation and environmental education are eligible to apply. Contact:

Joe Strohl  
44 East Mifflin Street, Suite 905  
Madison, WI 53703  
608-256-2290.

### ★ **Toyota/NSTA Tapestry Grants**

Grants of up to \$10,000 for projects that emphasize the efficient use of natural resources and protection of the environment. Science teachers K-12 are eligible. Information at [www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html](http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html)

### ★ **Urban Forestry Assistance Grants**

This grant is administered through the DNR's Urban Forestry Program. The purpose of the grant is to fund projects that improve a community's capacity to manage its trees. The applicant may be a city, village, town, county, tribal government, or not-for-profit organization. Joint applications are encouraged. Grants range from \$1,000 to \$25,000. An *Intent to Apply* form should be submitted by all prospective applicants no later than June thirtieth. Find out



### **Urban Forestry Assistance Grants, cont.**

more about this program by visiting their website at [www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/uf/grants/index.htm](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/uf/grants/index.htm), or write DNR Urban Forestry, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707.



### **WEEB Grant**

The Wisconsin Environmental Education Board (WEEB) awards grants for the development, dissemination, and implementation of environmental education programs. WEEB grants are open to corporations and public agencies including counties, cities, villages, towns, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts, school districts, and cooperative educational service agencies.

Funds are allocated in three categories: forestry-related education, energy-related education, and general environmental education. Grant awards range from \$5,000-\$20,000. Learn more about the WEEB grant program at [www.uwsp.edu/cnr/weeb/supportpages/grantprog\\_firstpage.htm](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/weeb/supportpages/grantprog_firstpage.htm), or contact:

Ginny Carlton  
Administrative Specialist  
Wisconsin Environmental Education Board  
110B College of Natural Resources  
UW-Stevens Point  
Stevens Point WI 54481  
715-346-3805  
Email: [weeb@uwsp.edu](mailto:weeb@uwsp.edu)



### **Wisconsin Society of Ornithology (WSO) Grants**

The **Steenbock Award** is intended for beginners, amateurs, and independent researchers; almost any type of meaningful bird-related project may be submitted for consideration. Graduate students and professionals in ornithology may apply for personal projects only. Usually one to three awards of up to \$200 each are presented per year.

The **Charles and Mary Nelson Award**, was established through a 1993 bequest from the Nelson family. One or more grants

totaling up to \$1000 per year will be awarded for ornithological research involving wetlands. Applications should be received by February 1.

For more information on the grants listed above contact Janine Polk, WSO Grants Chair, 1407 Frederic, Eau Claire, WI 54701, or call (715) 839-9265.

**WSO Scholarships** are awarded to provide additional support for work that is already being carried out or partially funded through a graduate program, or in conjunction with state or federal government work, or other institutional sponsor. In recent years the grants range from about \$150-\$450.

The **WSO Youth Grant Program** is designed to enrich and stimulate activities and research related to the study of birds. Eligible applicants are Wisconsin students in grades K-12. Proposals may be submitted in the area of bird research or bird education. Grant monies are \$250 or less per individual grant. Contact:

Steve Kupcho  
WSO Youth Education Coordinator  
(414) 354-0948  
Email: [skupcho@mtsd.k12.wi.us](mailto:skupcho@mtsd.k12.wi.us)



### ***GIVE US YOUR IDEAS!***

If you have other successful activity ideas or resources, please share them by contacting the Project WILD/Project Learning Tree office at:

**Project WILD/Project Learning Tree**  
Department of Natural Resources, CE/6  
PO Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707-7921  
(608) 264-6280

## ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB



For more information and other environmental action ideas, check out some of the following websites.

### ★ Federal Government Resources

**US Dept. of the Interior**  
[www.doi.gov/indexj.html](http://www.doi.gov/indexj.html)

\*U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: [www.fws.gov/](http://www.fws.gov/)

\*U.S. Geological Survey: [www.usgs.gov/](http://www.usgs.gov/)

\*Bureau of Land Management: [www.blm.gov/](http://www.blm.gov/)

\*Minerals Management Service:  
[www.nhp/index.htm](http://www.nhp/index.htm)

\*National Park Service: [www.nps.gov/](http://www.nps.gov/)

\*Bureau of Reclamation: [www.usbr.gov/](http://www.usbr.gov/)

\*The Office of Surface Mining:  
[www.osmre.gov/osm.htm](http://www.osmre.gov/osm.htm)

**US Dept. of Agriculture: <http://www.usda.gov>**

\*Forest Service: [www.fs.fed.us/](http://www.fs.fed.us/)

\*Forest Service Natural Resource  
Conservation Education Program  
[www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/ce/](http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/ce/)

\*Natural Resources Conservation Service-WI  
[www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/](http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/)

**US Environmental Protection Agency**  
<http://www.epa.gov/>

\*Region 5 (WI):  
[www.epa.gov/Region5](http://www.epa.gov/Region5)

**Peace Corps World Wise Schools Program**  
[www.peacecorps.gov/wws/index.html](http://www.peacecorps.gov/wws/index.html)

**NASA**  
[quest.arc.nasa.gov/](http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/)

### ★ State Government & University Resources

**WI Department of Natural Resources**  
[www.dnr.state.wi.us](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us)

\*EEK! - Environmental Education for Kids  
[www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eeek/](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eeek/)  
(Online natural resources magazine for teachers to use with students in the classroom.)

\*Project WILD & Project Learning Tree  
[www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/pltwild/](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/pltwild/)

Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute  
[www.northland.edu/soei/index.html](http://www.northland.edu/soei/index.html)

**University of WI-Stevens Point**  
<http://www.uwsp.edu>

\*College of Natural Resources:  
[www.uwsp.edu/cnr/](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/)

\*WI Center for Environmental Education:  
[www.uwsp.edu/cnr/wcee/](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/wcee/)

\* Central Wisconsin Groundwater Center  
[www.uwsp.edu/cnr/gndwater](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/gndwater)

**University of Wisconsin-Madison: [www.wisc.edu](http://www.wisc.edu)**

\*UW Arboretum:  
[www.wiscinfo.doit.wisc.edu/arboretum/](http://www.wiscinfo.doit.wisc.edu/arboretum/)

\*UW Institute for Environmental Studies:  
[www.ies.wisc.edu](http://www.ies.wisc.edu)

\*UW Sea Grant Institute:  
[www.seagrants.wisc.edu](http://www.seagrants.wisc.edu)

\*UW Extension,  
Environmental Resources Center:  
[www.uwex.edu/erc/erc/](http://www.uwex.edu/erc/erc/)

\*UWEX- Water Resources Programs  
[clean-water.uwex.edu/](http://clean-water.uwex.edu/)

\*Wisconsin Environmental Education Board  
[www.weeb.uwsp.edu](http://www.weeb.uwsp.edu)

## ★ Environmental Organizations

GreenPeace  
[www.greenpeace.org](http://www.greenpeace.org)

International Crane Foundation  
[www.icf.org](http://www.icf.org)

National Audubon Society  
[www.audubon.org/](http://www.audubon.org/)

National Wildlife Federation  
[www.nwf.org/](http://www.nwf.org/)

Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin  
[www.nrfwis.org](http://www.nrfwis.org)

Sierra Club  
[www.sierraclub.org/](http://www.sierraclub.org/)

The Nature Conservancy  
[www.tnc.org/](http://www.tnc.org/)

Timber Wolf Alliance  
[www.northland.edu/soei/twa](http://www.northland.edu/soei/twa)

Timber Wolf Information Network  
[www.timberwolfinformation.org/](http://www.timberwolfinformation.org/)

World Resources Institute  
[www.wri.org/wri/enved](http://www.wri.org/wri/enved)

World Wildlife Fund  
[www.wwf.org](http://www.wwf.org)

Wisconsin Society for Ornithology  
[Wso.uwgb.edu/wso](http://Wso.uwgb.edu/wso)

Wisconsin Stewardship Network  
[www.wsn.org/](http://www.wsn.org/)

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation  
[www.execpc.com/~wwf](http://www.execpc.com/~wwf)

The Wildlife Society-Wisconsin  
[www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/wildlife/](http://www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/wildlife/)

## ★ Environmental Education Resources

Earthsystems  
[www.earthsystems.org/](http://www.earthsystems.org/)

EE-Link  
[eelink.net](http://eelink.net)

ERIC Clearinghouse for Science, Math, and  
Environmental Education  
[www.ericse.org/eeindex.html](http://www.ericse.org/eeindex.html)

National Environmental Education Advancement  
Project  
[www.uwsp.edu/cnr/neeap/](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/neeap/)

National Association for Environmental Education  
[naaee.org/](http://naaee.org/)

Nature Net (South-Central Wisconsin)  
[www.naturenet.com](http://www.naturenet.com)

SEEK -Sharing Environmental Education Knowledge  
[www.seek.state.mn.us/](http://www.seek.state.mn.us/)

Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education  
[www.uwsp.edu/cnr/wcee/cegoals.htm](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/wcee/cegoals.htm)

Wisconsin Environmental Education Board  
[webb.uwsp.edu/](http://webb.uwsp.edu/)

## ★ General Environmental

Classroom FeederWatch  
[www.ornith.cornell.edu](http://www.ornith.cornell.edu)

Discovery Channel  
[www.discovery.com/](http://www.discovery.com/)

Great Lakes Information Network  
[www.great-lakes.net/index.html](http://www.great-lakes.net/index.html)

Great Lakes Science Center  
[www.glsc.org/index.php3](http://www.glsc.org/index.php3)

GREEN (Global Rivers Environmental Education  
Network)  
[www.earthforce.org/green](http://www.earthforce.org/green)

Journey North  
[www.learner.org/jnorth/](http://www.learner.org/jnorth/)

National Geographic  
[www.nationalgeographic.com/](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/)

SNAP (School Nature Area Project)  
[www.stolaf.edu/other/snap/](http://www.stolaf.edu/other/snap/)

## Natural Resource Web Sites for Kids

Animal Tracks Kid's Page-National Wildlife Federation  
[www.nwf.org/nwf/kids/index.html](http://www.nwf.org/nwf/kids/index.html)

Bat Conservation International, Inc.  
[www.batcon.org/](http://www.batcon.org/)

EEK! - Environmental Education for Kids  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
[www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eeek/](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eeek/)

EnviroNet Monitoring Projects  
[hearth.simmons.edu/monitoring\\_projects/index.html](http://hearth.simmons.edu/monitoring_projects/index.html)

EPA Explorers' Club  
[www.epa.gov/kids/](http://www.epa.gov/kids/)

EPA Student Center  
[www.epa.gov/students/](http://www.epa.gov/students/)

Give Water a Hand, UW-Extension  
[www.uwex.edu/erc](http://www.uwex.edu/erc)

Live from the Hubble Space Telescope  
[quest.arc.nasa.gov/hst/](http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/hst/)

Madison Metropolitan School District Planetarium  
[madison.k12.wi.us/planetarium/](http://madison.k12.wi.us/planetarium/)

Milwaukee County Zoo  
[www.milwaukeezoo.org/](http://www.milwaukeezoo.org/)

Milwaukee Public Museum  
[www.mpm.edu/](http://www.mpm.edu/)

Minnesota's Pollution Control Agency, Kids  
[www.pca.state.mn.us/kids](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/kids)

National Audubon Society for Kids  
[www.audubon.org/bird/watch/kids/](http://www.audubon.org/bird/watch/kids/)

Recycle City  
[www.epa.gov/recyclecity/first.htm](http://www.epa.gov/recyclecity/first.htm)

Surf Your Watershed (U.S.EPA)  
[www.epa.gov/surf2/](http://www.epa.gov/surf2/)

UW-Madison Space Place  
[sal.wisc.edu/SpacePlace](http://sal.wisc.edu/SpacePlace)

## Can't Find the Site?

If no forwarding address is given, use the root of the address to find the host site, or use one of the search engines below

AltaVista  
[www.altavista.com/](http://www.altavista.com/)

Excite  
[www.excite.com/](http://www.excite.com/)

Dogpile  
[www.dogpile.com/](http://www.dogpile.com/)

Google  
[www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

HotBot  
[hotbot.lycos.com/](http://hotbot.lycos.com/)

Webcrawler  
[www.webcrawler.com/](http://www.webcrawler.com/)

Yahoo  
[www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com)



The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services, and functions under an Affirmative Action

Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

This publication is available in an alternate format upon request. Please contact the Project WILD and Project Learning Tree Assistant Coordinator at (608) 267-2463, or write:

Project WILD/Project Learning Tree  
Department of Natural Resources  
Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707-7921



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